An act to add Part 4 (commencing with Section 6700) to Division 3 of the Water Code, relating to water.



## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Part 4 (commencing with Section 6700) is added to Division 3 of the Water Code, to read:

## PART 4. DAM SAFETY AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE LOCAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- 6700. (a) (1) The department shall, upon appropriation by the Legislature, develop and administer the Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program established pursuant to this section. The purpose of the program shall be to provide state funding for repairs, rehabilitation, enhancements, and other dam safety projects at existing state jurisdictional dams and associated facilities.
- (2) Before disbursing grant funds pursuant to this part, the department shall develop and adopt program guidelines and project solicitation documents. Any guidelines and project solicitation documents developed pursuant to this section are not subject to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.
- (b) Dam safety and enhancement projects eligible to receive funding under the program include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - (1) Dam repairs to allow water storage to full capacity.
  - (2) New spillway and spillway repair projects at existing dams.
  - (3) Dam and reservoir seismic retrofit projects.
- (4) Enhancement of water supply and downstream flood risk reduction such as implementation of Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations.
- (5) One-time projects to remove sediment resulting from wildfires or extraordinary storm events.
- (c) Upon appropriation by the Legislature, funds shall be available to the department to provide grants to owners of state jurisdictional dams for dam safety projects that provide the following public benefits, in order of priority:
  - (1) Protection of public safety.
  - (2) Restoration of water storage.
  - (3) Flood risk reduction.
  - (4) Enhancement of water supply reliability.
  - (5) Enhancement, protection, or restoration of habitat for fish and wildlife.
  - (6) Protection of water quality.
- (d) A grant cost share of at least 50 percent shall be required for projects funded pursuant to this part. Federal funding and other state loans and grants may be used as grant cost share. The department may waive or reduce the grant cost share if it would cause extreme financial hardship to the grant recipient and the dam poses an unacceptable public safety risk.



## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

Bill No.				
as introduced,				
General Subject: Dam	Safety and Climate	Resilience Local	Assistance Prog	gram.

Existing law provides for the regulation and supervision of dams and reservoirs by the state, and requires the Department of Water Resources, under the police power of the state, to supervise the construction, enlargement, alteration, repair, maintenance, operation, and removal of dams and reservoirs for the protection of life and property, as prescribed.

This bill would require the department to, upon appropriation by the Legislature, develop and administer the Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program to provide state funding for repairs, rehabilitation, enhancements, and other dam safety projects at existing state jurisdictional dams and associated facilities, subject to prescribed criteria. The bill would require the department to develop and adopt program guidelines and project solicitation documents before disbursing any grant funds. The bill would require a grant cost share of at least 50% for projects funded pursuant to the program, except as provided.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

